(c) if so, the reaction of Government's thereto and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to improve the work of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) As informed by Delhi Administration, four Zonal Water Testing Laboratories under Delhi Water Supply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking are collecting daily about 200 water samples from their respective zonal areas including rural areas to check on the water quality for its potability. The Zonal offices have been functioning during normal office hours to receive complaints from general public and to attend to them.

Besides this, the quality of water is also monitored by the Laboratory Staff of Water Treatment Plants every hour round the clock to ensure that the quality of water being supplied to the citizens of Delhi is of authorised standard.

Child Trafficking

1437. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that trafficking in children leading to prostitution, is prevalent in the countries of South-East Asia and 400,000 children in the country have been made victims of such heinous trafficking; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to protect Indian Children from such exploitation and to rehabilitate those already victimised ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the floor of the house.

New Scheme for the Welfare of Street Children

1438. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 24th April, 1993 regarding a new scheme—"Welfare Plan for street children"; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the names of cities (Statewise) likely to be covered under the scheme and the budgetary provisions earmarked in the Eighth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Scheme provides for non-formal education, vocational training, health check-up, nutrition and counselling to the disadvantaged, neglected and abused children. The scheme provides for implementation through voluntary organisations and monitoring through a City-level Task Force.

Eleven most populous cities have been selected during the current financial year. These are : Greater Bombay (Maharashtra), Calcutta (West Bengal), Delhi (Union Territory), Madras (Tamil Nadu), Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh), Bangalore (Karnataka), Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Pune (Maharashtra), Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh), Nagpur (Maharashtra), and Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).